

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 10, 13, 15 and 18 have been amended herein. No new matter has been added.

The amendments to claims 1, 10 and 13, made for clarity, are discussed below. Claims 15 and 18 have been amended to correct minor typographical errors.

Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by JP 08-2676679 (Office action paragraphs 2-5).

The rejection of claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by JP 08-2676679 is respectfully traversed.

JP'679 discloses a polyethylene-based heat-shrinkable co-extrusion film. The film comprises a layer of a resin composition containing a linear low density polyethylene (A) and a cycloolefin resin (B) consisting of an ethylene-cycloolefin random copolymer.

However, the ethylene-cycloolefin random copolymer comprises alicyclic units which have "norbornane ring structure" in a proportion of 100%. A proportion of alicyclic units having no norbornane ring structure is therefore 0% by weight in said alicyclic units. This is inconsistent with the recitation of claim 1 of the present application, and the disclosure of JP'679 does not anticipate the present claims.

The Examiner's attention is now directed to Comparative Examples 3 and 4 of the present specification wherein an ethylene-TCD random copolymer and an ethylene-NB random copolymer are employed to produce heat-shrinkable films, respectively. Applicants wish to emphasize the

resulting data from the comparison which are summarized in Tables 1 and 2 of the present specification (pages 65 and 66).

From the results shown in Tables 1 and 2, it is confirmed that the heat-shrinkable films according to the present invention are excellent in initial moisture resistance, tensile strength and film impact, and markedly small in deterioration of properties such as moisture resistance and film impact after heat shrinking compared with the heat-shrinkable film of Comparative Examples.

It is therefore submitted that the heat shrinkable films of claims 1-20 are neither anticipated by nor rendered obvious over JP'679. Reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite (Office action paragraph 7).

The rejection of claims 1-20 is overcome by the amendments to claims 1, 10 and 13. Claim 1 has been amended to more clearly recite the alicyclic structure-containing polymer (A), and claims 10 and 13 have been amended for consistency with claim 1.

As recited in amended claim 1, the polymer (A) comprises alicyclic units which have no norbornane ring structure. The proportion of alicyclic units having no norbornane ring structure is at least 10% by weight in said alicyclic units. In claim 1 as amended, it is clear that the proportion of alicyclic units having no norbornane ring structure could be 100%.

Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.111
Issei ISHIMARU et al.


U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/831,378
Attorney Docket No. 010649

If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants undersigned agent at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, WESTERMAN & HATTORI, LLP


Daniel A. Geselowitz, Ph.D.
Agent for Applicants
Reg. No. 42,573

DAG/plb
Atty. Docket No. **010649**
Suite 1000
1725 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
(202) 659-2930



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